

**New Hampshire Insurance Department**  
56 Old Suncook Road, Concord, NH 03301  
603-271-2261, Consumer hotline 1-800-852-3416  
Fax 603-271-0248

Contact: Roger Sevigny  
Commissioner

## **INSURANCE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 11, 2004**

**Contact Person: Kathleen Belanger**

CORE Physician Services of Exeter, New Hampshire and CIGNA Healthcare have been and continue to be engaged in contract negotiations. CORE had given CIGNA notice of its termination of participation in early April 2004, to be effective July 1, 2004. In early June, CIGNA and CORE notified subscribers and patients who would be affected by the negotiations of the possibility that CIGNA subscribers would be required to obtain a new primary care physician as of July 1, 2004.

On June 7, 2004, Commissioner Roger Sevigny asked representatives of CORE and CIGNA to meet with him to discuss options for resolving their dispute. As a result of these discussions with CIGNA and CORE, Commissioner Roger Sevigny is pleased to report that CORE and CIGNA have agreed to pursue non-binding mediation to attempt to resolve their outstanding dispute concerning payment of claims. They have also agreed to work cooperatively in an effort to reach a new contractual relationship on a going forward basis by July 31, 2004. Whether or not successful, subject to certain conditions, CORE and CIGNA have agreed to a sixty day extension of time to September 1, 2004. During this time, CIGNA subscribers will retain their existing access rights to CORE physicians. Commissioner Sevigny remains hopeful that with mediation and with this additional period of time CORE and CIGNA will be able to fully resolve the past claim issues and negotiate a new agreement.